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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/001,341

Applicant(s)

SHANBROM

Examiner

PHAM

Group Art Unit

1724

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

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Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because legal phraseology "comprises" is used in the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 and 9-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weinberg (5,814,135; 14 in Figs. 2 & 3; col. 4, lines 40-47), in view of Holter et al (5,015,451; Abstract; col. 2, line 64 through col. 3, line 8) and Scheinberg (3,693,327; col. 2, lines 47-49; col. 6, lines 28-33).

Weinberg discloses a disinfecting air filter comprising on an inlet side an iodinating layer wherein the filter material is impregnated with elemental iodine, and on the outlet side a porous polyvinyl acetal polymer to bind the iodine vapor passing

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through. Weinberg further discloses the filter assembly can have a multiple filter media including a HEPA filter for capturing particulate. Weinberg also shows that the iodine-binding material is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl acetal polymer. Claims 1-8 and 9-20 differ from the disclosure of Weinberg in that the filter assembly has an iodine capture layer comprising a humidifying agent and a visual indicator of iodine saturation. Holter et al disclose a filter treated with a humidifying agent which is propylene glycol for eliminating odors. Scheinberg discloses a filter having a visual indicator of the saturation of its ability to function so that the filter medium can be visually detected and replaced upon saturation. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the disinfecting air filter of Weinberg with humidifying agent such as propylene glycol as taught by Holter et al in combination with a visual indicator of the saturation as taught by Scheinberg in order to provide an improved air filter which optimizes air discharge purification, maximizes killing of pathogens and microorganisms, and is low cost in manufacturing.

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Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Weinberg (5,667,564) discloses a portable air purifier for destruction of airborne microbes and chemical toxins.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh-Chau Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-1605. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

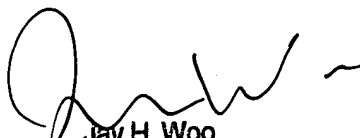
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Jay Woo, can be reached on (703) 308-3793. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-7718 or (703) 305-3601.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.


Jay H. Woo
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700
12-438

MCP 

December 9, 1998